

Application No.: 10/509,882
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.111
Reply to Office Action dated April 9, 2007
July 9, 2007

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following claims for the pending claims with the same numbers respectively:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): An alignment method for positioning objects to be bonded to each other by reading a positioning recognition mark provided on at least one object by movable recognition means, said alignment method comprising the steps of:

moving one object to a position at which a recognition mark on the one object can be read simultaneously with a recognition mark provided on the other object when the recognition marks of both objects are provided at positions that cannot be read simultaneously;

reading ~~said~~ the recognition ~~mark~~ marks simultaneously during movement of ~~said~~ the recognition means before its complete stop; and

identifying an absolute position of ~~said~~ the recognition mark by correcting a mark recognition position having been read by ~~said~~ the recognition means, based on a position

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feedback signal of ~~said~~ the recognition means sent during movement of ~~said~~ the recognition means,

wherein said step of identifying is done by correction in consideration of an amount of the movement after both recognition marks are simultaneously read, and

wherein said step of identifying is done before complete stop of a table for moving the one object, based on a position feedback signal of the table when the one object is moved to the position possible to be read simultaneously.

Claim 2 (Currently amended): The alignment method according to claim 1, said method further comprises the steps of using ~~wherein~~ a two-sight recognition means having sights in directions toward both objects ~~is used as~~ ~~said~~ the movable recognition means, reading a respective positioning recognition ~~marks~~ mark provided on both objects ~~are~~ simultaneously ~~read synchronously~~ as to respective sights during movement of ~~said~~ the recognition means before its complete stop, and identifying absolute positions of the respective recognition marks ~~are identified~~ by correcting respective mark recognition positions having been read by ~~said~~ the recognition means, based on position feedback

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signals of ~~said~~ the recognition means sent during movement
of ~~said~~ the recognition means.

Claims 3-7 (Cancelled)

Claim 8 (Currently amended): The alignment method
according to claim 1, wherein said step of reading ~~is~~
~~carried out by correcting in soft~~ includes software
correction of an aberration of a lens of ~~said~~ the movable
recognition means.

Claim 9 (Cancelled)

Claim 10 (Currently amended): The alignment method
according to claim ~~[[9]]~~ 1, wherein, ~~when said one object is~~
~~moved to said position possible to be read simultaneously,~~
said step of moving includes moving so that said one object
~~is reached to~~ reaches a recognition position prior to ~~said~~
the movable recognition means.

Claim 11 (Currently amended): The alignment method
according to claim ~~[[9]]~~ 1, wherein, ~~when said one object is~~

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~~moved to said position possible to be read simultaneously,~~
said step of moving includes moving so that said one object
~~is reached to~~ reaches a recognition position simultaneously
with ~~said~~ the movable recognition means.

Claim 12 (Cancelled)

Claim 13 (Currently amended): The alignment method
according to claim 1, wherein, ~~when said movable recognition~~
~~means reads said positioning recognition mark provided on~~
~~said object, an exposure time is controlled by an electronic~~
~~shutter~~ said step of reading includes controlling an
exposure time by an electronic shutter.

Claim 14 (Currently amended): The alignment method
according to claim 13, wherein said step of controlling
includes carrying out a stroboscopic emission ~~is carried out~~
synchronously with ~~said~~ the exposure time due to ~~said~~ the
electronic shutter.

Claims 15-25 (Cancelled)

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Claim 26 (Currently amended): A mounting method for mounting one object onto the other object to be bonded to each other after positioning both objects to each other by using an alignment method, said alignment method positioning both objects to each other by reading a positioning recognition mark provided on at least one object by movable recognition means, said alignment method comprising the steps of:

moving one object to a position at which a recognition mark on the one object can be read simultaneously with a recognition mark provided on the other object when the recognition marks of both objects are provided at positions that cannot be read simultaneously;

reading ~~said~~ the recognition ~~mark~~ marks simultaneously during movement of ~~said~~ the recognition means before its complete stop; and

identifying an absolute position of ~~said~~ the recognition mark by correcting a mark recognition position having been read by ~~said~~ the recognition means, based on a position feedback signal of ~~said~~ the recognition means sent during movement of ~~said~~ the recognition means,

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wherein said step of identifying is done by correction
in consideration of an amount of the movement after both
recognition marks are read synchronously, and

wherein said step of identifying is done before
complete stop of a table for moving the one object, based on
a position feedback signal of the table when the one object
is moved to the position possible to be read simultaneously.

Claim 27 (Currently amended): The mounting method according to claim 26, said method further comprises the steps of using ~~wherein~~ a two-sight recognition means having sights in directions toward both objects ~~is used as said the~~ movable recognition means, reading respective positioning recognition ~~marks~~ mark provided on both objects ~~are~~ simultaneously ~~read~~ and synchronously as to respective sights during movement of ~~said the~~ recognition means before its complete stop, and identifying an absolute ~~positions~~ position of respective recognition ~~marks~~ mark ~~are identified~~ by correcting respective mark recognition positions having been read by ~~said the~~ recognition means, based on position feedback signals of ~~said the~~ recognition means sent during movement of ~~said the~~ recognition means.

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Claims 28-32 (Cancelled)

Claim 33 (Currently amended): The mounting method according to claim 26, wherein said step of reading ~~is carried out by correcting in soft~~ includes software correction of an aberration of a lens of ~~said~~ the movable recognition means.

Claim 34 (Cancelled)

Claim 35 (Currently amended): The mounting method according to claim ~~[[34]]~~ 26, wherein, when said one object is moved to said position possible to be read simultaneously, said one object ~~is reached to~~ reaches a recognition position prior to ~~said~~ the movable recognition means.

Claim 36 (Currently amended): The mounting method according to claim ~~[[34]]~~ 26, wherein, when said one object is moved to said position possible to be read simultaneously, said one object ~~is reached to~~ reaches a

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recognition position simultaneously with ~~said~~ the movable
recognition means.

Claim 37 (Cancelled)

Claim 38 (Currently amended): The mounting method
according to claim 26, wherein, ~~when said movable~~
~~recognition means reads said positioning recognition mark~~
~~provided on said object, an exposure time is controlled by~~
~~an electronic shutter~~ said step of reading includes
controlling an exposure time by an electronic shutter.

Claim 39 (Currently amended): The mounting method
according to claim 38, wherein said step of controlling
includes carrying out a stroboscopic emission ~~is carried out~~
synchronously with ~~said~~ the exposure time due to ~~said~~ the
electronic shutter.

Claims 40-50 (Cancelled)